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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1 - 16. (*Cancelled*)

17. (*Previously presented*) A method for remotely conducting interactive patient diagnostics for a patient having one or more implantable medical devices (IMDs), monitoring the patient, and delivering therapy to the patient, all of which is carried out over a bi-directional communication system establishing a communications network link and comprising a remote web-based expert data center, a programmer for the IMDs, and a hand-held personal data monitor (PDM) operating as an interface to the programmer, the method comprising the steps of:

connecting the programmer to the remote data center for data  
communication via the data communications network link;  
connecting the PDM to the programmer and transferring data into and out  
of the programmer with the PDM; and  
uplinking data from the IMD to the programmer.

18. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of connecting the PDM to the IMD.

19. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of using the PDM to transfer data messenger between the IMD, the remote data center and the programmer.

20. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of using the PDM to secure an identity of the IMD before implant.

21. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of using the PDM to transfer pre-implant data to the programmer.

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22. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of using the PDM to modify, store and forward data for use in an unregulated section of the programmer.

23. (*Original*) The method of claim 18, wherein the data communications network is an intranet.

24. (*Original*) The method of claim 17, wherein the data communications network is an internet.

25. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, wherein the data communications network further includes a satellite.

26. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, wherein the communications network further includes a telephone line.

27. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, wherein the data communications network further includes a global positioning system.

28. (*Original*) The method of claim 17, wherein the data communications network includes at least two communication links selected from the group of communication links consisting of a telephone line, an intranet, an internet, a satellite, a laser wave form, and a global positioning system.

29. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, wherein the operates in real time data transmission using data packets routed to the remote data center through a high speed wireless network interface coupled to the PDM.

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30. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, wherein the PDM operates in real time data transmission using data packets routed to the remote data center through a serial port coupled to the PDM.

31. (*Original*) The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of connecting the serial port to a modem.

32. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of using the PDM to store and forward data to and from a personal computer (PC).

33. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of using the PDM to store and forward information to a printer.